

Board of Selectmen Minutes
Regular Meeting
November 16, 2017 at 7:30 pm
Town Hall Meeting Room

Attendance: First Selectman Chris Spaulding, Selectman Brian Gordon, Selectman Stephan Grozinger, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Administrative Assistant Randi Derene and Weston Residents.

This meeting was videotaped and can be viewed on Channel 79 and on our Town of Weston website.

1- **Call to Order** – 7:30pm

2- **Pledge of Allegiance** – led by Peter Shih

Mr. Spaulding expressed his excitement with new board

3- **Proclamation honoring Nina Daniel** – postponed until next Board of Selectman meeting

4- **Appointment of Acting First Selectman per Section 5.3 of the Weston Town Charter** –

Mr. Spaulding appointed Brian Gordon to be Acting First Selectman in his absence–

Mr. Grozinger moved to appoint Brian Gordon as Acting First Selectman, Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

5- **Fixing of time and place of regular meetings per Section 4.3 of the Weston Town**

Charter - Mr. Grozinger moved to approve the procedure of section 4.3 in the draft packet dated 11/16, Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 6- **Approval of Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget Review Schedule** Mr. Grozinger moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Budget Review Schedule, Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7- **Reappointment of Amy Sanborn to the Library Board** - Mr. Spaulding presented Ms. Sanborn a gift for earning the "Association of Connecticut Library Boards Award" recognizing her significant contributions to our Weston Public Library. Mr. Spaulding asked what is planned for this year and Ms. Sanborn replied they will be working on a children's library renovation project. Mr. Gordon thanked Ms. Sanborn for her service. Mr. Grozinger moved to reappoint Amy Sanborn to the Library Board for a term ending 12/31/21. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 8- **Appointment of Peter Shih to Library Board** - Mr. Shih spoke about his related experience as he has worked with the Historical Society, created Websites, and generally knows a lot about Weston. Mr. Spaulding thanked him for stepping up and volunteering more of time. Ms. Sanborn added they are fortunate as a board and Mr. Shih has attended last two meetings. Mr. Gordon moved to appoint Peter Shih to the Library Board for a term ending 12/31/19. Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 9- **Resignation of Hillary Mandell and Keith Brooks from the Commission for the Arts** Mr. Spaulding thanked them for their service to the town stating that the arts are key part of Weston. Mr. Grozinger moved to accept the resignation of Hillary Mandell and Keith Brooks from the Commission for the Arts. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 10- **Reappointment of Jim Smith, Robert Turner & Ted Von Rosenvinge to the Conservation Commission** Mr. Spaulding stated these are three exceptional

gentlemen. Mr. Gordon moved to reappoint Jim Smith, Robert Turner and Ted Von Rosenvinge to the Conservation Commission for terms to end 12/31/21. Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

11- Reappointment of Mark Crowley and Michael Schramm to the Parks & Recreation

Commission Mr. Spaulding stated he understands they have been excellent stewards of our parks and recreation activities. Mr. Grozinger moved to reappoint Mark Crowley and Michael Schramm to the Parks and Recreation Commission for terms to end 12/31/21. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

12- Resignation of Gordon Green, Dial-A-Ride Van Driver - Mr. Spaulding stated Mr. Green was a driver for 13 years and thanked him for being a dedicated employee. Mr. Gordon moved to accept the resignation of Gordon Green. Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

13- Intermediate School knee wall study update by the Building Committee

Allen Swerdlowe – Chair of the building committee History of the knee wall issues at WIS were discussed. The Board of Education hired Silver Petrucelli in 2016 but no work had been done. The BOE recently turned the project over to the Building Committee. Mr. Swerdlowe expressed his dissatisfaction with the proposed solution put forth by Silver Petrucelli and explained that the Building Committee changed the scope of work and asked Silver Petrucelli to submit a revised proposal. Mr. Swerdlowe said the revised scope of work will be sent out to two other firms that the Building Committee has worked with in the past. He explained that the revised scope of work will include the examination and repairing all 4 knee walls (the original request by the BOE was to investigate one knee wall) No motion made.

14- Memorandum of Understanding with Board of Ed. for lease of space for the Sr. Center

Mr. Luiz explained that the BOE holds a lease with the Sr. Center that expires in 2019 which includes a period of time when the BOE could get out of this lease. The BOE had

until Nov 1, 2017, but they would like to get an extension as they are in the midst of finalizing a 10 year facility study. Mr. Luiz said the recommendation would be to come up with a mutually agreeable agreement, with a suggested extension to June 30, 2018. Mr. Luiz also stated the BOE has no intentions to do anything with the Sr. Center space. Mr. Luiz said that the town attorney and school attorney will work together to revise the addendum. No motion made.

15- Special Appropriation of \$15,000 to hire an energy consultant to solicit clean energy proposals, compare proposals, and help negotiate terms and conditions

Mr. Spaulding explained how virtual net metering works, electricity being sourced by a solar farm. This agreement was entered into by the Gayle Weinstein administration. Mr. Luiz explained we renewed this agreement last year to continue to pursue and have the option to buy. Mr. Luiz stated if we would agree to purchase electricity from this solar farm, we would receive credits from Eversource. He then explained the request to hire an energy consultant to assist with clean energy projects. Mr. Luiz recommends asking for a special appropriation of \$15,000 to hire an energy consultant. Mr. Luiz also stated he would like the BOE to be part of reviewing the consultant's proposals, along with the Sustainability Committee, School staff and the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Grozinger moved to approve a supplemental appropriation in the sum of \$15,000 to hire an energy consultant. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

16- Expiration of agreement with the Town Attorney

Mr. Spaulding discussed creating a legal review committee – Mr. Luiz explained that in the past the BOS established a legal review committee. Mr. Spaulding stated the Town is currently represented by Cohen and Wolf. He explained when their contract expires it is the Town's duty to do RFP's. Mr. Luiz said Mr. Tracey has agreed to be chair of the Legal Review Committee. Mr. Grozinger explained in the past RFP's have been sent out to law firms in the area. Then the Legal Review Committee would review and make

recommendations, and set up interviews, etc. Mr. Gordon clarified that Cohen and Wolf would also be considered for renewal. Mr. Luiz recommended that we appoint Dennis Tracey to chair the committee. Mr. Gordon moved to appoint Dennis Tracey to chair the Legal Review Committee to help guide us through the process of hiring new town attorneys. Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

17- Property Tax Refunds: Mr. Grozinger moved to approve the property tax refunds for a total sum of \$3789.86. Mr. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

18- First Selectman's update:

- a. Saturday morning (11/18) at 8am there will be a Special BOS meeting workshop to share ideas, visions and goals.
- b. Mr. Spaulding said one of his goals is to film and document more Town Meetings to record and make available as much as possible.
- c. Mr. Spaulding will be planning a Freedom of Information refresher meeting.

19- Approval of Minutes: None

20- Adjournment Mr. Gordon moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm. Mr. Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Randi Derene, Administrative Assistant

Approved: December 4, 2017